

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 075022

11

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON:BAL

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

C:HSOHNENFELDT

S/S-O: LMATTESON

----- 076763

R 030340Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 075022

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:UR, PFOR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PROPAGANDA ON KING FAYSAL'S ASSASSINATION

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN CALLED IN SOVIET DCM VORONTSOV APRIL 2 AND TOLD HIM THAT THE SECRETARY HAD ASKED THAT HE SPEAK TO VORONTSOV AGAIN ABOUT SOVIET PROPAGANDA TREATMENT OF KING FAYSAL'S ASSASSINATION NOTING THAT MR. SONNENFELDT HAD DISCUSSED THIS WITH VORONTSOV ON MARCH 31. HARTMAN SAID THAT THERE HAVE BEEN TWO RADIO BROADCASTS SINCE THAT TIME IN ARABIC TO THE MIDDLE EAST MAKING SIMILAR BASELESS CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE US AND THE ASSASSINATION. HARTMAN SAID THE SECRETARY REGARDED THIS AS QUITE INCONSISTENT WITH DETENTE AND WANTED THE SOVIET SIDE TO KNOW THAT IF THERE ARE FURTHER SUCH REPORTS, WE WILL BE FORCED TO MAKE A PUBLIC HIGH-LEVEL STATEMENT WHICH THE SECRETARY DOES NOT WANT TO DO.

2. VORONTSOV REPLIED ONLY THAT HE DID NOT THINK SUCH A
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STATEMENT WILL BE NECESSARY. KISSINGER

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